

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension of)	
)	
the Educator Certificate of)	CONSENT ORDER OF
)	
Deborah Denise Primus)	SUSPENSION
)	
Certificate # 172517)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 11, 2004. On July 1, 2004, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Ms. Deborah D. Primus a notice of her right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension or revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate (certificate) number 172517 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Ms. Primus received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing her signature. On July 8, 2004, Ms. Primus requested a hearing, which was scheduled for August 12, 2004, before John J. Fantry, Jr., Esquire, a hearing officer appointed by the State Board. Ms. Primus subsequently agreed through her attorney, Carl L. Solomon, Esquire, to resolve the case without a hearing upon the following terms: (1) Ms. Primus agreed to the voluntary suspension of her certificate. The suspension period would be for a two years commencing retroactively on August 11, 2003, and ending August 10, 2005; (2) This suspension would be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts on the grounds of unprofessional conduct; (3) This agreement gives Ms. Primus the right to apply for the reinstatement of her certificate after August 10, 2005. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the voluntary suspension of Ms. Primus's certificate upon the terms set forth above.

Deborah D.
Primus
No.#
172517

Initial
Here

Date

Ms. Primus holds a valid South Carolina certificate with over ten years of teaching experience. On June 22, 2004, Ms. Primus pled guilty to Violation of Mandatory Test Security and ordered to pay a fine of Eight Hundred Dollars. Ms. Primus gave test questions to students prior to the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) while employed at Southeast Middle School in Richland County School District One.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. 59-25-160 (2204); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. The State Board finds that the preponderance of the

evidence presented supports its decision to accept the retroactive suspension of Ms. Primus's certificate # 172517, from August 11, 2003 through August 10, 2005, upon the conditions set forth above. If she wishes to have her certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, Ms. Primus may make a written request to the Office of Teacher Certification of the Department, at which time her certificate will be reinstated.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones

Dr. Mary E. Jones

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

August 11, 2004

I, Deborah D. Primus, SC Teaching Certificate 172517, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on Tuesday, August 11, 2004.

/S/ Deborah D. Primus _____ 8/2/04
Deborah D. Primus _____
Date